

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KHARTO 02243 01 OF 02 061140Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----068754 061157Z /47  
R 061103Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4791  
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 KHARTOUM 2243

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, MPOL, SU, EG  
SUBJECT: RELATIONS BETWEEN NIMEIRI AND SADAT

REF: A. KHARTOUM 2221, B. CAIRO 11102

1. SUMMARY. CONCERNS BY SADAT AND OTHERS IN CAIRO OVER WEAKNESS NIMEIRI REGIME UNDERSTANDABLE BUT STRIKE US AS UNDULY GLOOMY. NIMEIRI HAS MADE MAJOR EFFORT OVER PAST YEAR TO IMPROVE SECURITY. UNFORTUNATELY HIS EFFORTS SECURE ARMS FROM US, FRANCE, CHINA AND OTHERS HAVE SO FAR MET ONLY WITH LIMITED SUCCESS. NIMEIRI HAS ALSO MOVED TO ASSURE ALLEGIANCE OF ARMY AND TO NEUTRALIZE OPPOSITION, IN BOTH CASES, APPARENTLY WITH SOME SUCCESS. WHILE THREAT OF ATTEMPTED COUP, ESPECIALLY BY COMMUNISTS, IS EVER PRESENT, OVERALL INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION APPEARS BETTER NOW THAN YEAR OR SO AGO. END SUMMARY.

2. WE FOUND CAIRO'S EXPLANATION OF SADAT'S CURRENT IMPATIENCE WITH NIMEIRI INTERESTING BUT ALSO SURPRISING. WE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO KNOW PRECISELY (A) WHY SADAT BELIEVES NIMEIRI HAS NOT TAKEN ADEQUATE MEASURES TO PRE-EMPT LIBYAN ATTACK AND (B) ON WHAT BASIS NON-RESIDENT DIPLOMATS BELIEVE COUP IS LIKELY HERE IN NEAR FUTURE. PROBLEM IS BOTH  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 KHARTO 02243 01 OF 02 061140Z

ALLEGATIONS MAY BE CORRECT, BUT WITHOUT KNOWING THEIR BASIS WE WONDER IF THEY REPRESENT CONSIDERED ANALYSIS OF SITUATION IN SUDAN.

3. RE PREPAREDNESS, SADAT'S REMARKS ARE SURPRISING, SINCE CONSTANT THEME OVER PAST YEAR HAS BEEN NEED TO IMPROVE SECURITY IN FACE NOT ONLY OF LIBYAN THREAT BUT BECAUSE OF

FEAR OF COMBINED LIBYAN/ETHIOPIAN/SOVIET EFFORT TO OVERTHROW FIRST NIMEIRI AND THEN SADAT. SUDANESE BELIEVE THEY ARE MAKING AN ALL-OUT EFFORT TO IMPROVE SECURITY. IN ADDITION TO STEPS TAKEN TO ASSURE ALLEGIANCE OF ARMY AND NEUTRALIZE OPPOSITION, NIMEIRI HAS ENTERED INTO FORMAL DEFENSE AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT AND INFORMAL PACT WITH SAUDI ARABIA. WHEN HE PERCEIVED LOCAL SOVIET ADVISORS AS THREAT HE KICKED THEM OUT OF SUDAN.

4. NIMEIRI HAS MADE MAJOR EFFORT SECURE ARMS FROM US, FRANCE, CHINA AND OTHERS, AND OVERALL DEFENSE BUDGET HAS BEEN INCREASED BY 50 PERCENT. UNFORTUNATELY FOR HIM, HOWEVER, RESPONSE HAS BEEN AGONIZINGLY SLOW AND LIMITED WITH ONLY CHINESE PROMISING TO GIVE AND NOT SIMPLY TO SELL ARMS. BUT CHINESE SIMPLY DO NOT MAKE OR CANNOT PROVIDE FULL RANGE OF EQUIPMENT NIMEIRI NEEDS. SUDANESE LEADERSHIP WOULD LIKE US TO BE KEY COUNTRY HELPING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE SECURITY. HOWEVER, DESPITE OUR POLICY DECISION TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS WITH SUDAN, SO FAR AT LEAST, ONLY MILITARY EQUIPMENT WE HAVE AGREED TO SELL IS C-130 TRANSPORTS.

5. PERHAPS SADAT BELIEVES NIMEIRI HAS CONCENTRATED TOO MUCH ON EASTERN FRONTIER. IT TRUE THAT SINCE LAST DECEMBER PROBLEMS ALONG ETHIOPIAN BORDER HAVE TAKEN FIRST PRIORITY. THIS NECESSARY FROM SUDANESE POINT OF VIEW, HOWEVER, SINCE ETHIOPIA REPRESENTS GREATER THREAT. BORDER REGION IS  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 KHARTO 02243 01 OF 02 061140Z

CLOSER TO KHARTOUM, IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL REGIONS OF SUDAN AND STRATEGIC PORT SUDAN AREA. IT ALSO MORE HEAVILY POPULATED THAN WESTERN REGION. IT IS AS THOUGH US HAD TO FACE CONCURRENT THREATS FROM NORTH CENTRAL MEXICO AND ONTARIO. BOTH WOULD BE SERIOUS, BUT LATTER CLEARLY IS WORSE. SHOULD ALSO BE KEPT IN MIND THAT SUDAN HIS HUGE COUNTRY WITH MANY WEAK, UNSTABLE OR ERRATIC NEIGHBORS AND, CONSIDERING LIMITED FINANCIAL RESOURCES, ALL BORDERS CANNOT BE DEFENDED FULLY. AS RESULT, SUDANGOV TENS BE AS UNPROVOCATIVE AS POSSIBLE.

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

PAGE 01 KHARTO 02243 02 OF 02 061150Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----068860 061202Z /40

R 061103Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4792

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 KHARTOUM 2243

EXDIS

6. AS FOR PREDICTIONS OF COUP, WE THINK THIS A LITTLE LIKE PREDICTING WAR IN MIDDLE EAST. EVENTUALLY YOU WILL BE RIGHT. HOWEVER, BASED ON ALL INFO AVAILABLE TO US, WE THINK SECURITY SITUATION AS GOOD AS IT HAS BEEN IN PAST YEAR. NIMEIRI STILL DOES NOT HAVE FULL AFFECTION OF SUDANESE, BUT NEITHER DOES ANYONE ELSE. DURING PAST YEAR HE HAS WORKED HARD AND WITH SOME SUCCESS TO GAIN FULL BACKING OF ARMY. HE IS MOVING TO NEUTRALIZE OPPOSITION. APPARENTLY WITH SOME SUCCESS. ON OTHER HAND, OBVIOUS COMMUNIST BACKING OF LIBYA AND ETHIOPIA HAS TENDED DISCREDIT THOSE MEMBERS NONCOMMUNIST SUDANESE OPPOSITION WHO HAVE BEEN COOPERATING WITH FOREIGNERS AGAINST NIMEIRI REGIME. ECONOMIC PROBLEMS PERSIST AS DO POCKETS OF TRIBAL VIOLENCE IN SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST, BUT WE KNOW OF NO IMPORTANT CONCERTED EFFORT REKINDLE CIVIL WAR AMONG SOUTHERNERS. SUDANGOV REMAINS WARY OF THOSE WHO ATTEMPTED MOUNT COUP LAST JULY, AND MANY LOCAL OBSERVERS ASSUME COMMUNISTS WILL MOVE AGAINST GOVERNMENT AT FIRST OPPORTUNITY. BUT IN LOCAL TERMS, SECURITY SITUATION IS BETTER THAN IT HAS BEEN IN SOME TIME. THOUGH WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF COUP WERE ATTEMPTED, AT MOST ANY TIME, WE THINK CHANCES OF SUCCESSFUL COUP LESS NOW THAN YEAR OR TWO AGO.

BOGOSIAN

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, PERSONAL OPINION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977KHARTO02243  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770239-0536  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** KHARTOUM  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770788/aaaacyvf.tel  
**Line Count:** 151  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 53bbb370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 77 KHARTOUM 2221, 77 CAIRO 11102  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1954499  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RELATIONS BETWEEN NIMEIRI AND SADAT  
**TAGS:** PINS, MPOL, SU, EG, (SADAT, ANWAR), (NIMEIRI, JAFAR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/53bbb370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009